DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS ON HIS RETURN FROM JAPAN 1

GOVERNOR COMMENTS ON CONTAINER TERMINAL 9 2

GOVT ASTONISHED BY CT9 STATEMENT 2

STATEMENT ON CONTAINER TERMINAL 9 3

GOVT PLANS FOR FLOOD PREVENTION MEASURES 4

GREENING STRATEGY IS NEEDED FOR HONG KONG 5

CONDOLENCES TO ICAC HEAD'S FAMILY 5

EMPLOYER FINED FOR NOT PAYING COMPENSATION 6

SOUTHERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL CONCLUDES TOMORROW 6

ARTS AND CULTURE COCKTAIL CARNIVAL 7

GOVT PLANS TO EXTEND PIER ON SOUTH LAMMA 8

EDUCATION STAFF AWARDED FOR LONG SERVICE 8

BUILDING SAFETY ACTIVITY CONTINUES 9

TRAINING COURSE FOR HEALTH WORKERS 9

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS 10

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS ON HIS RETURN FROM JAPAN

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I'VE HAD AN EXTREMELY USEFUL AND SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO JAPAN. AS YOU KNOW, ONE OF THE PURPOSES WAS TO ATTEND THE HONGKONG-JAPAN BUSINESS CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE WHICH HAD A VERY GOOD MEETING. I ALSO HAD AN OFFICIAL VISIT AND MET THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER, THE JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER, THE JAPANESE FINANCE MINISTER, THE MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND A NUMBER OF OTHER JAPANESE POLITICAL LEADERS; I MET A NUMBER OF JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADERS AT THE KEIDANREN AND ALSO MADE A NUMBER OF SPEECHES, INCLUDING ONE AS YOU KNOW, YESTERDAY AT A LUNCH ATTENDED, I THINK, BY ALMOST 700 HUNDRED PEOPLE. SO IT WAS A VERY GOOD VISIT. IT UNDERPINNED OUR STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN. WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN. JAPAN ARE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS, AND I WAS DELIGHTED TO HAVE THE OPPPORTUNITY OF TALKING VERY CANDIDLY TO JAPANESE LEADERS OVER THE LAST THREE DAYS. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO PAYING MANY FUTURE VISITS TO JAPAN OVER THE NEXT FOUR AND A HALF YEARS WHICH I HOPE WILL HELP TO STRENGTHEN THE LINKS BETWEEN OUR COMMUNITIES.

PERHAPS I CAN JUST SAY ONE OTHER THING. I WAS EXTREMELY SAD TODAY TO LEARN OF THE DEATH OF PETER ALLEN. HE WAS ONE OF THE LAST SENIOR OFFICIALS THAT I SAW BEFORE I LEFT FOR TOKYO. PETER WAS AN OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANT. HE HAD WORKED ENORMOUSLY HARD, VERY CONSCIENTIOUSLY OVER THE YEARS FOR HONG KONG. HIS CAREER WAS A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE OF INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC SERVICE. I AM SURE THAT I SPEAK FOR EVERYONE IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, ALL HIS COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS IN PUBLIC SERVICE IN EXTENDING MY CONDOLENCES TO HIS WIFE AND TO HIS FAMILY. IT WAS A GREAT SHOCK TO ALL HIS FRIENDS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND I'M SURE A GREAT SHOCK TO EVERYONE IN HONG KONG WHO KNEW HIM AND LIKED HIM AS WE DID.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, ARE YOU FRUSTRATED THAT THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT SUPPORT YOU OPENLY ABOUT YOUR POLITICAL PROPOSALS?

GOVERNOR: DID YOU ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE I LEFT FOR TOKYO? DID YOU COME HERE? IF YOU HAD DONE, YOU WOULD HAVE HEARD ME SAY THAT I RECOGNISED THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT RECKONED THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WAS PRIMARILY A MATTER FOR PEKING AND LONDON AND HONG KONG. AND THAT WAS THEIR POSITION AND WOULD BE THEIR POSITION. THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY INTERESTED IN DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG, THAT THEY RECOGNISED THOSE DIPLOMATIC GUIDELINES. THEREFORE, I CAN'T HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED SINCE I HADN'T EXPECTED TO HAPPEN WHAT YOU CLAIM WOULD HAVE DISAPPOINTED ME, HAD IT NOT HAPPENED, IF YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN. I SAID THAT AT EVEN GREATER LENGTH YESTERDAY WITH EVEN MORE DOUBLE NEGATIVES.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, GUO FENGMIN'S COMMENTS ABOUT CT9 - DOES THAT INDICATE THAT THERE IS NO RESPITE IN THE CHINESE DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE AGAINST YOUR REFORMS OR AGAINST YOUR PROGRAMME?

/GOVERNOR: I .....

GOVERNOR: I DON'T WANT TO SPEND THE NEXT DAYS, WEEKS, MONTHS DEBATING UNREASONABLE ARGUMENTS. THE FACTS SPEAK VERY CLEARLY FOR THEMSELVES. WHAT I WANT TO DO, WHATEVER OTHER PEOPLE MAY BE SEEKING, IS TO WORK AND ARGUE FOR WHAT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. I WANT TO WORK FOR THEIR PROSPERITY AND THEIR STABILITY AND THEIR WAY OF LIFE. AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN THAT VERY IMPORTANT ENDEAVOUR.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

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GOVERNOR COMMENTS ON CONTAINER TERMINAL 9

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THE ATTACK BY THE CHINESE SIDE ON CONTAINER TERMINAL 9 IS VERY DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE TAKING IT UP WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL IN TOKYO, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "THE LAND FOR THE CONTAINER TERMINAL WAS AGREED AS A GRANT THROUGH THE LAND COMMISSION IN THE NORMAL WAY UNDER THE JOINT DECLARATION."

"THERE IS NO QUESTION OF A FRANCHISE AFTER 1997."

HE SAID A LOT OF PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN ASTONISHED BY THE STATEMENT YESTERDAY AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CERTAINLY BE TAKING THAT UP WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES.

"IT HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY NO FOUNDING WHATSOEVER," HE ADDED.

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GOVT ASTONISHED BY CT9 STATEMENT

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, LIKE MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, ARE ASTONISHED BY AMBASSADOR GUO'S STATEMENT ON THE CONTAINER TERMINAL 9 (CT9) YESTERDAY, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS, SIR DAVID SAID: "THIS MORNING THE POLITICAL ADVISER CALLED IN THE NCNA'S REPRESENTATIVE, AND EXPRESSED OUR SURPRISE AND CONCERN.

"IN PARTICULAR, WE ARE SURPRISED THAT NO ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO CHECK THE FACTS WITH US OR WITH THE BRITISH SIDE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, BEFORE THE STATEMENT WAS ISSUED.

"THE FACTS ARE THAT CT9 WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE TERMS OF A LAND GRANT AS IS USUAL WITH CONTAINER TERMINALS. NO OTHER FORM OF CONTRACT OR FRANCHISE IS INVOLVED.

/FURTHERMORE, THE .....

"FURTHERMORE, THE GRANT OF LAND FOR CT9 WAS APPROVED BY THE LAND COMMISSION IN MARCH THIS YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX III OF THE JOINT DECLARATION," HE SAID.

"WE ARE DOING OUR VERY BEST TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. WE RECOGNISE THAT A GOOD RELATIONSHIP IS VITAL FOR THE CONTINUED STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG. BUT CO-OPERATION IS DIFFICULT UNLESS THE CHINESE SIDE TAKES A REASONABLE AND RATIONAL APPROACH."

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, SIR DAVID SAID: "I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANY CONNECTION WHATSOEVER BETWEEN THE DIFFICULTIES WE ARE HAVING OVER THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG WITH THE CHINESE SIDE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH ARE CLEARLY IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG PEOPLE."

"WE CERTAINLY WOULD HOPE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO QUESTION OF ONE AFFECTING THE OTHER. I DON'T THINK HONG KONG PEOPLE EXPECT THAT TO HAPPEN EITHER."

ASKED IF HE WAS CONCERNED ON THE EFFECT THIS MIGHT HAVE ON INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE, HE SAID: "CLEARLY SUCH STATEMENTS ARE LIKELY TO HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY IF THEY ARE MADE WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

"THEY CAN DO DAMAGE, AND IT'S FOR THAT REASON THAT WE THINK THAT ANY SUCH STATEMENT SHOULD BE VERY CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BEFORE THEY'RE MADE."

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STATEMENT ON CONTAINER TERMINAL 9

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THE POLITICAL ADVISER TODAY (SATURDAY) EXPRESSED TO NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY THE GREAT SURPRISE AND CONCERN OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AT AMBASSADOR GUO'S STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY (NOVEMBER 27) ABOUT CONTAINER TERMINAL 9.

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ARE PARTICULARLY SURPRISED THAT NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO CHECK THE FACTS WITH THEM OR WITH THE BRITISH SIDE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP BEFORE THE STATEMENT WAS ISSUED.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTAINER TERMINAL 9 WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE TERMS OF A LAND GRANT AS IS USUAL WITH CONTAINER TERMINALS.

NO OTHER FORM OF CONTRACT OR FRANCHISE IS INVOLVED.

THE GRANT OF LAND FOR CONTAINER TERMINAL 9 WAS APPROVED IN THE LAND COMMISSION IN MARCH THIS YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF ANNEX III OF THE JOINT DECLARATION.

NEXT MONDAY (NOVEMBER 30), HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT WILL BE RAISING THIS MATTER WITH THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR IN LONDON.

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GOVT PLANS FOR FLOOD PREVENTION MEASURES
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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A FLOODWAY AND CONCRETE NULLAH WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 20.6 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED IN SHAN PUI RIVER TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING IN YUEN LONG AREAS.

THE WORK WILL START IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR AND WILL BE COMPLETED ABOUT MID-1997.

THE GOVERNMENT ALSO INTENDS TO DREDGE A FAIRWAY WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 14.49 HECTARES OF SEABED AT THE TYPHOON SHELTER IN TUEN MUN.

THE DREDGING WORK IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE DRAUGHT FOR FULLY LADEN BARGES TO USE THE FUTURE PUBLIC CARGO HANDLING AREA IN AREA 16.

THE WORK WILL START IN FEBRUARY AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN DECEMBER NEXT YEAR.

THE EXTENT OF THE TWO AREAS AFFECTED ARE DESCRIBED IN NOTICES PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE YESTERDAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS WITHIN TWO MONTHS FROM THAT DATE, THAT IS, ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 26.

THE NOTICE OF SUCH OBJECTION SHALL DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

THE GOVERNMENT NOTICES, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLANS, CAN BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITES.

THE PLANS CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED). AND AT THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG, AND AT THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES.

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GREENING STRATEGY IS NEEDED FOR HONG KONG
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THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT PEOPLE'S DESIRE NOT TO LOOSE THEIR FUNDAMENTAL LINKS WITH NATURE AND JOY IN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT MEANT THAT THE "GREENING OF HONG KONG" IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME.

SPEAKING AT THE 1992 SHELL BETTER ENVIRONMENT AWARDS SCHEME PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY, DR REED SAID THE MAJORITY OF THE ENTRIES TO THE SCHEME WERE CONCERNED WITH GREEN AND GROWING THINGS.

COMPARED WITH 15 OR EVEN 10 YEARS AGO, DR REED SAID, THERE HAD BEEN GREAT IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION, AND THE PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR THE DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE AND SOLID WASTE.

"BUT OUR COMMUNITY WILL ALWAYS PERCEIVE THEIR ENVIRONMENT TO BE POOR UNTIL WE SEE MORE GREENERY ABOUT OUR STREETS AND MORE OPEN SPACES WITHIN OUR ENVIRONMENT," HE SAID.

DR REED ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT BOARDS HAD PAID MUCH ATTENTION TO GREENERY, ALL THESE EFFORTS WAS ON A PROJECT-BY-PROJECT BASIS.

"MOVES ARE ALREADY AFOOT TO FORMULATE A TERRITORIAL LANDSCAPE STRATEGY AND THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS VERY RECENTLY ESTABLISHED A WORKING GROUP TO DRAW UP A LONG-TERM COMPREHENSIVE TREE PLANTING STRATEGY FOR THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG.

"WITH THESE AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, WE ARE EVIDENTLY LOOKING AT A MORE ORCHESTRATED APPROACH, WHICH CAN'T BE ANYTHING BUT GOOD NEWS FOR THE GREENING OF HONG KONG IN THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

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CONDOLENCES TO ICAC HEAD'S FAMILY
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THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE DEATH OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION, MR PETER ALLAN:

"I AM SHOCKED AND SADDENED TO HEAR OF THE SUDDEN DEATH OF PETER ALLAN THIS MORNING. HE WAS A FINE MAN, MUCH RESPECTED BY US ALL AND DOING A GREAT JOB AS HEAD OF THE ICAC. I WILL MISS HIM GREATLY AS A FRIEND AND A COLLEAGUE. MY SINCERE CONDOLENCES GO TO HIS WIFE LIZ AND TO ALL HIS FAMILY."

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EMPLOYER FINED FOR NOT PAYING COMPENSATION

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EMPLOYERS ARE LIABLE TO HEAVY FINES FOR NOT MAKING PERIODICAL PAYMENTS WITHIN A TIME LIMIT TO EMPLOYEES INJURED AT WORK, SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (PROSECUTIONS) MR JOHN SUNG SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

MR SUNG MADE THE REMINDER FOLLOWING A CASE IN WHICH AN EMPLOYER WAS CONVICTED OF FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE.

THE WELFFAY SNACK SHOP CONGEE NOODLE AND SWEET WAS FINED $2,000 BY A SHA TIN MAGISTRATE FOR TWO SUMMONSES FOR NOT PAYING AN INJURED EMPLOYEE HIS ENTITLED COMPENSATION FOR TEMPORARY INCAPACITY CAUSED BY A WORK ACCIDENT WITHIN A SPECIFIED PERIOD.

MR SUNG POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE ORDINANCE, AN INJURED EMPLOYEE IS ENTITLED TO PERIODICAL PAYMENTS DURING HIS PERIOD OF INCAPACITY AT A RATE OF TWO-THIRDS OF HIS MONTHLY EARNINGS, AND THE PAYMENTS ARE PAYABLE WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF THE EMPLOYEE'S NORMAL PAY DAY.

"WHERE AN EMPLOYER OBJECTS TO THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION PAYABLE, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPENSATION ASSESSMENT TO BOTH THE EMPLOYER AND THE EMPLOYEE STATING THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION AND REQUIRING PAYMENT TO BE MADE WITHIN 21 DAYS," HE EXPLAINED.

ANY EMPLOYER FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF $5,000.

MR SUNG ALSO POINTED OUT THAT A NEW DIRECT SETTLEMENT SYSTEM HAS COME INTO OPERATION.

"UNDER THE SYSTEM, AN EMPLOYER MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, EITHER WRITTEN OR VERBAL, WITH HIS EMPLOYEE ON COMPENSATION FOR WORK-RELATED INJURIES RESULTING IN NO PERMANENT INCAPACITY AND INVOLVING SICK LEAVE OF NOT MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS," HE ADDED.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL CONCLUDES TOMORROW

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THE MONTH-LONG SOUTHERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL WILL CLOSE TOMORROW (SUNDAY) WITH A STAR-STUDDED VARIETY SHOW AT THE FOUNTAIN PLAZA OF WAH KWAI ESTATE, BEGINNING AT 7.30 PM.

IN ADDITION TO PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR LOCAL SINGERS, THERE WILL BE AN ACROBATIC SHOW.

ADMISSION IS FREE AND ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

/OFFICIATING GUESTS .....

OFFICIATING GUESTS AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY WILL INCLUDE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS ROSANNA URE; THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG; AND THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MRS SO CHAU YIM-PING.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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ARTS AND CULTURE COCKTAIL CARNIVAL
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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT'S ARTS AND CULTURE MONTH WILL CLOSE TOMORROW (SUNDAY) WITH A SPECIAL CARNIVAL AT THE GARDEN PLAZA OF HONG KONG PARK, BEGINNING AT 12.30 PM.

THE HIGHLIGHTS WILL INCLUDE TRADITIONAL CHINESE ARTS AND CRAFTS STALLS, A STREET DRAMA, CHINESE AND WESTERN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS DEMONSTRATIONS AS WELL AS A PROSE RECITATION BY A GROUP OF PRIMARY STUDENTS.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING POPULAR LOCAL SINGERS.

A JOINT PRESENTATION WITH RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, THE SHOW WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON THE RADIO STATION'S CHANNEL TWO FROM 3 PM.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR PAUL WONG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE MONTH, TO BE HELD AS PART OF THE CARNIVAL.

ADMISSION FOR THE CARNIVAL IS FREE AND ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY WHICH WILL BEGIN TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT 2.30 PM IN THE GARDEN PLAZA OF HONG KONG PARK.

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GOVT PLANS TO EXTEND PIER ON SOUTH LAMMA

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO EXTEND THE PIER AT MO TAT WAN, SOUTH LAMMA.

THE PROPOSED WORKS WILL AFFECT AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,640 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED. THE NEW PIER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT ACCESS TO SHORE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

THE WORK WILL START IN MARCH AND COMPLETE AROUND JULY NEXT YEAr.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED YESTERDAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS WITHIN TWO MONTHS FROM THAT DATE, THAT IS, ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 26.

THE NOTICE OF SUCH OBJECTION SHALL DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

THE NOTICE, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED) AND AT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, 20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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EDUCATION STAFF AWARDED FOR LONG SERVICE

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A TOTAL OF 303 MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF RANKS FROM WORKMAN II TO SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND HAD A COMBINED SERVICE OF MORE THAN 8,200 YEARS TODAY (SATURDAY) RECEIVED LONG SERVICE AWARDS.

THE MAJORITY OF RECIPIENTS - TOTALLING 105 - ARE CERTIFIED MASTERS/MISTRESSES, SOME OF WHOM BEGAN THEIR TEACHING CAREER IN 1956.

OF THE TOTAL, 166 HAD BEEN IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE FOR 30 YEARS AND 137 FOR 20 YEARS.

AMONG THE RECIPIENTS WHO RECEIVED THE 30-YEAR LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICES CERTIFICATES WERE THE SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MR ROBERT LO CHUN-HANG WHO IS NOW ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MR WONG SIK-WAH, AT PRESENT ACTING SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (DEVELOPMENT).

/THEY ALSO .....

THEY ALSO INCLUDED LECTURERS AND ASSISTANT LECTURERS, PRINCIPALS AND VICE-PRINCIPALS OF COLLEGES OF EDUCATION.

PRESENTING THE AWARDS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC S W WONG, PAID TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO HAD RETIRED.

"THEIR CONTRIBUTION IS ADMIRABLE AND THEIR SERVICE WOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN," HE SAID.

FOR THOSE STILL WITH THE DEPARTMENT, HE LOOKED TOWARDS THEIR CONTINUED DEDICATED TASK OF SERVING THE PUBLIC AND PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG.

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BUILDING SAFETY ACTIVITY CONTINUES

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ANOTHER ROUND OF BUILDING SAFETY EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD IN KWAI CHUNG, STARTING TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION IS PART OF THE PUBLICITY PROGRAMME FOR THE BUILDING SAFETY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN SEPTEMBER BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE (BOO) OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE CAMPAIGN TAKES AN EDUCATIONAL APPROACH BY IMPRESSING ON PROPERTY OWNERS THAT IT IS THEIR JOB TO KEEP THEIR PROPERTIES IN GOOD CONDITION.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD IN THE CONCOURSE OF THE KWAI FONG MTR STATION IN KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

IT WILL BE OPEN FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM ON SUNDAY AND FROM 10 AM TO 3 PM ON MONDAY.

BOO OFFICERS WILL BE ON THE SPOT TO EXPLAIN TO THE INQUISITIVE PUBLIC ON MATTERS OF BUILDING SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE.

THE BOO IS OPERATING A ROUND-THE-CLOCK HOTLINE 848 2222 ON BUILDING SAFETY.

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TRAINING COURSE FOR HEALTH WORKERS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS TO OFFER AN 11-WEEK TRAINING COURSE FOR HEALTH WORKERS SERVING IN PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED THEIR NURSING OR MEDICAL TRAINING LOCALLY.

"IT WILL SOON BE A STATUTORY REQUIREMENT FOR THEM TO COMPLETE THE COURSE WHEN A LEGISLATION TO CONTROL RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY, INCLUDING THOSE PRIVATELY RUN, IS TO BE INTRODUCED," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

/UNDER THE .....

UNDER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, NO ONE SHALL BE QUALIFIED TO BE REGISTERED AS A HEALTH WORKER FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYMENT AT A RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME WITHOUT HAVING COMPLETED A COURSE OF TRAINING APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

"THE COURSE, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, HONG KONG, AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, IS SCHEDULED TO START IN MID-FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE COURSE, WHICH IS ALSO AIMED AT IMPROVING THE SERVICE QUALITY OF STAFF IN PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY, INCLUDES BASIC SKILLS IN LOOKING AFTER THE ELDERLY, INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS AND BASIC PRINCIPLES IN RUNNING A HOME FOR THE ELDERLY.

APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF THEIR QUALIFICATION. THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ELDERLY HOMES IN WHICH THEY ARE SERVING WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY.

INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INTERESTED TO TAKE UP A JOB IN THESE HOMES MAY ALSO FORWARD THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REGISTRATION OFFICE OF PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY, SEVENTH FLOOR, WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS DECEMBER 15.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 834 7414 OR 892 5193.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	$ MILLION
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,800
REVERSAL OF LAF	-1,300
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-40
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,460

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER

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